

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01718 152244Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /044 W
-----152247Z 047071 /66

R 151339Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1718

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, SY, IZ
SUBJECT: REPORTED IRAQI ATTEMPT TO PLACE EXPLOSIVE CHARGE AT
MERIDIEN HOTEL

1. LOCAL AP STRINGER TOLD US MARCH 14 THAT SYRIAN SECURITY
PAST WEEKEND HAD DISCOVERED MAN WITH QATARI PASSPORT WHO HAD
CHECKED INTO LOCAL MERIDIEN HOTEL AND WAS CARRYING EXPLOSIVE
DEVICES IN HIS LUGGAGE. AFTER INITIAL INTERROGATION, THIS
INDIVIDUAL ALLEGEDLY CONFESSED THAT HE HAD BEEN DISPATCHED BY
IRAQIS TO PLANT CHARGE AT THIS HOTEL. DETAINEE REPORTEDLY
CONFESSED HE HAD INTENDED TO PLACE CHARGES IN HOTEL PRESS ROOM
AND PERHAPS OTHER LOCATIONS. SOURCE SAID INDIVIDUAL WAS
APPREHENDED THROUGH USE OF METAL DETECTION WARNING DEVICES
INSTALLED IN HOTEL PRIOR TO VISIT MARCH 14 OF ITALIAN FONMIN
FORLANI.

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2. COMMENT: STORY MAY HAVE BEEN PLANTED TO BLACKEN
FACE OF IRAQIS, BUT IN VIEW OF SYRO-IRAQI HOSTILITY
IT STRIKES US AS PLAUSIBLE.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPLOSIVES, SECURITY, FOREIGN RELATIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC01718
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770089-0345
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770360/aaaacaea.tel
Line Count: 59
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 073af8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3110598
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED IRAQI ATTEMPT TO PLACE EXPLOSIVE CHARGE AT MERIDIEN HOTEL
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, SY, IZ
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/073af8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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